



New Local Plan – Timetable, Launch, Scoping Consultation, & Call for Sites

Local Plan Task Group: 19 May 2026

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



Local Plan Timetable

Key Aspects of the new Local Plan Process:

- **New 30-Month System:** The updated framework introduced via the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act (2023) aims for faster, simpler plans with three formal Gateway Assessments to ensure faster, focused preparation
- **Local Plan Timetable:** Local planning authorities are required to create, publish, and update their Local Plan Timetable online in a digital format. They must be updated each month and when key milestones are met
- **Mandatory Updates:** Plans must generally be reviewed at least every five years

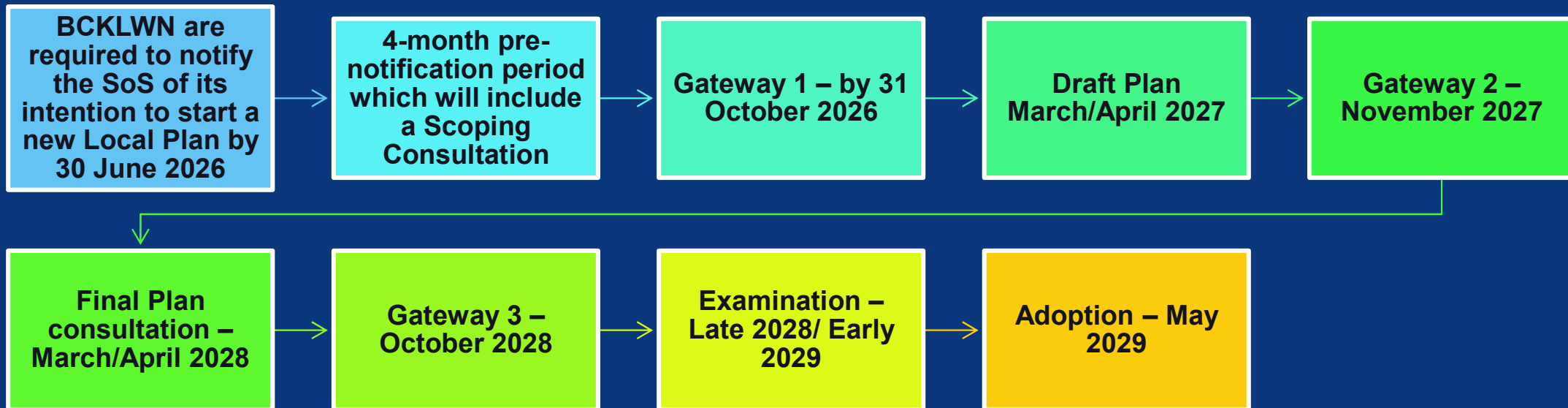


Local Plan Timetable (Continued)

- Mandatory dates for the new Local Plan process (start of process):
- BCKLWN must formally start the new Local Plan process no later than the 30 June 2026. This will be published via a 'Notice of Intention' (NoI) on our website
- A 4-Month notification period will then begin until the 31 October 2026. Within this time, the Council must undertake a 'Scoping Consultation' for, at least, 21 days
- The Council must then undertake a self-assessment check, known as Gateway 1, by the 31 October. The result of this assessment must be published on the Council's website. The 30 months then commences



BCKLWN Local Plan 30 Month Timetable



Local Plan Timetable (Continued)

Share screen with Excel Timetable here.



Notice of Intention (NoI)

- 2026 Local Planning Regulations: Reg 19
- The NoI is the Council's legal statement that it intends to produce a new Local Plan
- It sets out:
 - Name of local authority preparing the Plan (us!)
 - Area covered (whole Borough)
 - Local Plan title
 - Local Plan Timetable



NoI (continued)

- Key features of Notice of Intention:
 - Published on website (Digital not PDF)
 - Minimum 4-months in advance of plan-making start date
 - Sets intended date of passage through "Gateway 1" - that is, start of 30-months timetable (30 October 2026)
 - Published alongside Local Plan Timetable (LPT)
 - Includes a map of the plan area



Nol (continued)

- Important to note that Nol is a statutory/ legal obligation
- All about scene setting and introducing the new Local Plan
- Government has already written to us (January 2026) to notify us that we need to start preparing a new Local Plan by October 2026



Scoping Consultation

- Preliminary stage, preceding start of Local Plan preparation
- 4-weeks/ 28 days consultation:
 - "Scene setting" for Local Plan
 - Baseline position/ status quo
 - Defining how stakeholders/ wider public will be engaged
 - Series of questions, allowing stakeholders to advise about themes/ topics/ priorities for the Local Plan



Scoping Consultation (continued)

- 2026 Local Planning Regulations: Reg 20
- Information:
 - Background information; e.g. "What is a Local Plan?"; "Why is the Borough Council preparing a new Local Plan?"
 - Main steps in preparing the Local Plan (summary timetable etc)
 - Key "known" baseline position; e.g. local housing need, statutory designations (e.g. National Landscape), flood zones etc
 - Emerging National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) will define much of the scope of new Local Plan



Scoping Consultation (continued)

- Content of Scoping consultation:
 - Storyboard – Interactive consultation tool (including open questions)
 - Issues facing the Borough – How should vision and outcomes for the Local Plan be developed?
 - Engagement strategy – How can stakeholders (consultation bodies, members of the public etc) engage with the plan-making process?
 - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) scoping report



Scoping Consultation (continued)

- New NPPF (anticipated summer 2026) will provide detailed direction as to what the Local Plan should cover (i.e. scope of the Plan)
- Key themes/ topics new Local Plan should cover:
 - Spatial strategy (including settlement hierarchy) – Growth options: what goes where, when and how?
 - Local standards, where appropriate (e.g. affordable housing, energy efficiency)
 - Site-specific allocations/ designations (e.g. housing, employment, town centres, green infrastructure)



Scoping Consultation (continued)

- Scoping consultation will run for 28 days, from **1 to 29 September 2026** (inclusive)
- Consultation materials including:
 - Interactive online questionnaire (incorporating consultation information)
 - Local Plan Timetable
 - Project Initiation Document
 - SEA Scoping Report
 - Call for Sites – comments can be made & new sites submitted



Call for sites to help shape future development

Borough Council of
King's Lynn &
West Norfolk



Local Plan call for sites

Thursday, 29th January 2026

[Call for sites to help shape future development | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)

Call for Sites 2026

- Whilst not one of the prescribed stages, a key focus of new style local plans is site allocations to meet the local need
- Our Call ran Jan 29 – May 1 (17 Weeks)
- Initially due to close 31 March, but we extended it
- We wanted the most sites possible so we can make the most sustainable choices

[Call for sites to help shape future development | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)

Call for Sites

NOW OPEN



Do you own or know about land which could be suitable for development (housing or jobs), green infrastructure (e.g. public open space) or community facilities?

We want to hear from you!



Submit sites using QR Code:



For any enquiries, please email: local.plan@west-norfolk.gov.uk

Call for Sites 2026

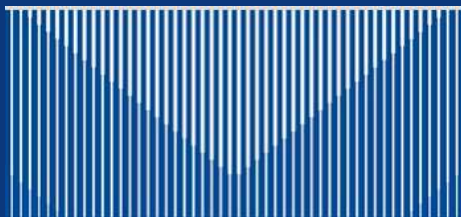
- Went above and beyond a usual call
- Simple online submission form created (could also be completed and emailed or posted)
- News Paper Advertisement
- Press Releases
- Socials: LinkedIn & Facebook
- Posters
- QR Codes
- Contacted Local Plan Database
- Contacted site owners from previous local plans, planning applications, and land registry



Call for Sites 2026

CALL FOR SITES NOW OPEN

Do you know of land
suitable for development
or community projects?



This is a public invitation to submit
land for potential future development
as part of the new Local Plan



Your site submissions help
inform where future homes, jobs,
and infrastructure could be
located across the borough

Sites must be within
King's Lynn & West Norfolk



We're accepting sites for:

Housing / Affordable housing
Custom & Self Builds
Employment / commercial
Infrastructure
Green infrastructure
Gypsy & Traveller sites
Renewable energy sites
Local Green Spaces



Use our Online
Submission Portal and
fill out an online form

Help shape the future of our borough

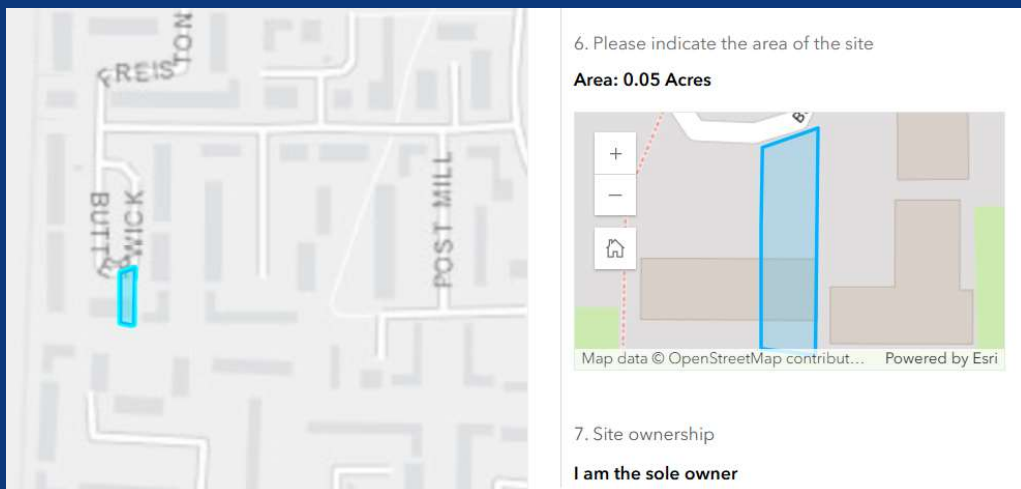
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West Norfolk



Link: [Here](#)

Call for Sites 2026

- Esri / Arc Survey123 Consultation Portal – Online Forms
- Site drawn online
- Submission data direct into the database
- Go Here: [Call for Sites 2026 | Call for Sites 2026 | Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk](#)



6. Please indicate the area of the site

Area: 0.05 Acres

7. Site ownership

I am the sole owner

Map data © OpenStreetMap contribut... Powered by Esri

The screenshot shows a web-based interface for site consultation. On the left, a map shows a street grid with a blue rectangle highlighting a site on 'BUTTS'. To the right, a form asks for site details. Step 6 shows a zoomed-in view of the site with a blue polygon and a red dashed line indicating the area, which is 0.05 Acres. Step 7 asks for site ownership, with the option 'I am the sole owner' selected. The map is powered by Esri and uses OpenStreetMap data.

Call for Sites 2026

- **750+ sites submitted** (most ever)
- Thanks to those who took the time to engage
- We'll re-open the call as part of the Scoping Consultation (2026) & at the Draft Plan Consultation Stages (2027).
- Publish an online map of all the sites submitted & invite comments
- Now assessment will take place (including with consultees)
- Housing & Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) methodology based on site selection guidance, worked up and agreed by all the authorities in Norfolk through the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (NSPF)
- This will come before the LPTG
- AI – exploring using this for sites analysis and comment summarisation as advocated by Government



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